TEXAS WING, CIVIL AIR PATROL CRISIS COMMUNICATIONS PLAN

January 1st 2021

This document governs how Texas Wing will respond in the event of a crisis either when Texas Wing headquarters is the lead element or when Texas Wing acts in a support role with respect to one or more of its groups/squadrons/ flights. This annual plan is required by CAPR 190-1.

Texas Wing has a total of 3,078 members (1,552 senior members and 1,526 cadets).

The Texas Wing Crisis Communications Plan has been approved by the Texas Wing commander and carries the Texas Wing commander's authority. The Texas Wing public affairs officer is responsible for the plan's preparation, distribution, and regular reviews/updates.

WILLIAM SCHRODER, Col, CAP Commander Texas Wing, Civil Air Patrol JANET KRISTOFFERSEN, Lt Col, CAP Chief of Staff Texas Wing, Civil Air Patrol

- 1. Establish Crisis Communication Teams and roles
 - a. Team Composition
 - i. Texas Wing Commander
 - ii. Texas Wing Vice Commander North
 - iii. Texas Wing Vice Commander South
 - iv. Texas Wing Chief of Staff
 - v. Texas Wing Public Affairs
 - vi. Texas Wing Chaplain
 - vii. Texas Wing Director of Operations
 - viii. Texas Wing Director of Safety
 - ix. Texas Wing Legal Officer
 - x. Texas Wing CISM Officer
 - b. Team Role The wing commander, in consultation with other members of the team, determines the best course of action to prevent any given situation from resulting in discredit of or harming the reputation of Civil Air Patrol. The commander may delegate execution of that course of action to the person(s) best suited to carry it out.
 - i. If the event involves a member who has signed into a wing-level mission, it will be resolved at the wing level, keeping the region commander informed of developments.
 - ii. The Texas Wing commander and the Texas Wing Public Affairs Officer are the official spokespersons for the Texas Wing.

2. Command/Media Center Location

The Texas Wing Media Center will be located at the Texas Wing HQ, Nacogdoches, Texas.

This location, situated on the A. L. Mangham Jr. Regional Airport, has ample space for separate Command and Media Center functions, Internet connections, telephone lines, and other appropriate technology.

Depending on where the event has taken place and the circumstances, other locations may be adopted, at the commander's discretion.

- a. The Texas Wing commander will determine the location for any event if the Texas Wing HQ is deemed unsuitable due to location of crisis.
- b. For intervention in a group/squadron/flight-level event, the wing commander may decide to use the wing's command/media center or use a group/squadron/flight designated command/media center, at the commander's discretion.
- c. Initiating Response
 - i. Once Texas Wing is responsible for handling the event,
 - All subordinate commanders are made aware that the only spokespersons for the event are the Wing commander and the Wing PAO, or their designee. All inquiries from the public will be forwarded to Wing PAO for information.
 - NHQ/PA and SWR DPA are immediately notified that Texas Wing is the lead
 - 3. The wing PAO drafts an initial news release, secures the Wing commander's approval, gets approval from NHQ/PA and/or NHQ/GC as required, and releases the approved information promptly.
 - 4. All requests for information must be relayed to the wing PAO, who will inform, advise, and take direction from the wing commander.
 - ii. As events evolve, the wing PAO prepares supplementary news releases, obtains approval as necessary, and releases them promptly.
 - iii. As events evolve, when considered appropriate, the wing PAO, with NHQ/PA and NHQ/GC approval, calls the media to periodic news briefs or news conferences (as appropriate).
 - iv. If the event is elevated to NHQ/PA, the Region Communication Team assists NHQ/PA as directed.
- 3. Up-to-date Contact Information (Grade, Name, Title, email, cell or primary phone)
 - a. The Texas Wing Communication Team,
 - i. Col. William Schroder, Commander, wschroder@cap.gov, 972.979.2209
 - ii. Lt Col. Donald Gulliksen, Vice Commander North, dgulliksen@txwgcap.org, 214.608.0985
 - iii. Lt. Col. Ralph Hagedorn, Vice Commander south, txhagedorn@gmail.com (832)265.8420

- iii. Lt Col. Janet Kristoffersen, Chief of Staff, jkristoffersen@txwg.cap.gov, 512.484.5416
- iv. 1st Lt Roman Vitanza, Director of Marketing and Public Affairs, roman.vitanza@txwgcap.org, 817.919.4924
- v. Ch. (Maj.) Larry Byrd, Chaplain, larrywayne57@yahoo.com, 936.366.4333
- vi. Maj. Mark Hammack, Director of Operations, mhammack@txwg.cap.gov, 214.478.0955
- vii. Lt Col. Donald Windle, Director of Safety, dwindle@cap.gov, 940.367.3738
- viii. Lt. Col. Jean Bishop, Legal Officer, legal @txwgcap.org, (940)389.6200
- ix. Maj. Julian Howe, CISM, (817)395.3589

b. SWR contacts,

- i. Col. Joe R. Smith, Commander, jsmith@cap.gov
- ii. Lt. Col. Arthur Woodgate, Dir. PA, awoodgate@austin.rr.com, (512) 567-1935
- c. NHQ contacts,
 - i. General Inquiries, mac@capnhq.gov, (877) 227-9142
 - ii. Steve Cox, NHQ Public Affairs Manager, scox@capnhq.gov, (334) 953-9367
- d. Law-enforcement/ES contacts,
 - i. DPS, Austin Headquarters 512.424.2000 ii. FEMA 210.226.8263

4. Anticipate Crisis Scenarios

- a. Natural Disaster Due to the size of the wing, operational assets are divided among the 7 groups and command posts and missions will be located as close as possible to the affected area.
 - i. In some cases, the natural disaster may affect other wings within the SWR and Wing or Region assistance may be requested.
 - ii. As an intermediate step, a wing might request assistance from SWR in facilitating NHQ/PA's intervention.
- b. Missing Aircraft Due to the size of the wing, operational assets are divided among the 7 groups and command post and missions will be located as close as possible to the affected area.
 - In some cases, the incident may affect other wings within the SWR and Wings or Region assistance may be requested.
 - ii. As an intermediate step, a wing might request assistance from SWR in facilitating NHQ/PA's intervention.

c. Member-related Crisis

- i. In the case of a Texas Wing staff member's improper or questionable behavior, if the issue cannot be handled effectively at the wing level, SWR will take over.
- ii. In most cases, if a wing member-related crisis (such as fiscal misconduct, improper behavior, cadet abuse, etc.) should transcend beyond wing level, SWR will take over.

5. Crisis Coordination Instructions

- a. Should the Texas Wing be the echelon responsible for leading the Civil Air Patrol's response to a crisis, it will be responsible for handling media relations.
- b. Should the Texas Wing stand up an Incident Command Post to deal with the crisis, the IC and PIO will be responsible for handling the media, with coordination and advice from the SWR commander and director of public affairs.
- c. Should NHQ assume responsibility for handling the crisis, all media requests will be forwarded to NHO/PA, unless otherwise instructed.

Potential Crisis Scenarios - The following list of potential crises covers the most likely events that can cause a communications crisis for CAP. If an incident occurs which does not fit within one of these scenarios, PAOs can modify the standard templates provided prior to sending them out. PAOs and unit/activity commanders should thoroughly review the pre-scripted press releases before they are released to make sure that all facts are correct and all areas have been filled in. Reading the release aloud may help catch missed errors.

Each area below has corresponding talking points and a pre-scripted press release for PAOs to use while they are attempting to contact the Crisis Communication Team. These messages may be used with unit commander approval. Team members should not release any names until they are sure that next of kin have been notified.

- Death of a member;
- Loss of or major damage to a CAP aircraft;
- Van/vehicle accident;
- Member injury;
- Cadet Protection Policy (CPPT) violations;
- Abuse/harassment/discrimination; and
- Natural disaster

d. Death of a Member

Information to be Collected and Reported

- What happened
- How many members died and their membership status (cadet/senior)
- Whether they died as part of a CAP activity or mission;
- Whether any non-CAP members involved in the incident
- Where the incident occurred
- What lifesaving efforts were made to protect the members
- What safety mechanisms have been engaged to prevent further death or injury (such as activity cancelled, aircraft grounded)
- Whether the family has been notified
- When the inspector general, region counsel, or national was notified
- The type of activity the incident happened at (squadron meeting, encampment, etc.)
- Number and type of members injured as a result of incident
- Were psychological support efforts given to the family, member's friends, peers, or witnesses, such as the use of CISM support team
- Any information given to the press, including copies of notes or releases.

Talking Points

- Member has died
- The activity that the member was involved in when the death occurred (meeting, mission, encampment, etc.)
- Number of people killed/injured
- Cause is under investigation
- Safety is a priority for CAP
- Names and personal information withheld to respect the member's privacy and/or to notify the family
- CAP is assisting local authorities
- Schedule of next release or assurance that more information is coming
- Background information on CAP and its missions
- e. Loss or Major Damage to a CAP Aircraft Information to be Collected and Reported
 - What happened
 - How many members were injured or died and their membership status (cadet/senior)
 - Were any non-CAP members involved in the incident
 - Was the aircraft being flown for a CAP mission/activity
 - Where the incident occurred
 - Was the aircraft in flight when the incident occurred
 - What safety mechanisms have been engaged to prevent further death or injury (such as activity cancelled, aircraft grounded)
 - What safety mechanisms were used to prevent the incident
 - Has the family been notified
 - When the inspector general, region counsel, or national was notified
 - Were psychological support efforts given to the family, member's friends, peers, or witnesses, such as the use of CISM support team
 - Any information given to the press, including copies of notes or releases.

Talking Points

- Type of aircraft and location of incident
- Number of crew and passengers on the aircraft and their condition
- Mission or activity aircraft was being used
- Cause is under investigation
- Safety is a priority for CAP
- More information will be given as it develops
- Background information about CAP and its missions
- If injuries or deaths caused, refer to these speaking points

g. Van/Vehicle Accident

Information to be Collected and Reported

- What happened
- How many members were injured or died and their membership status (cadet/senior)
- Were any non-CAP members involved in the incident
- Was the aircraft being flown for a CAP mission/activity
- o Where the incident occurred
- Was the aircraft in flight when the incident occurred

- What safety mechanisms have been engaged to prevent further death or injury (such as activity cancelled, aircraft grounded)
- What safety mechanisms were used to prevent the incident
- o Has the family been notified
- o When the inspector general, region counsel, or national was notified
- Were psychological support efforts given to the family, member's friends, peers, or witnesses, such as the use of CISM support team
- Any information given to the press, including copies of notes or releases.

Talking Points

- Type of aircraft and location of incident
- o Number of crew and passengers on the aircraft and their condition
- o Mission or activity aircraft was being used
- Cause is under investigation
- Safety is a priority for CAP
- More information will be given as it develops
- Background information about CAP and its missions
- o If injuries or deaths caused, refer to these speaking points

h. Member Injury

Information to be Collected and Reported

- What happened
- How many members were injured and their membership status (cadet/senior)
- Was the incident caused by a vehicle or aircraft owned/operated by CAP members
- Were they injured as part of a CAP activity
- Where the incident occurred
- What first aid efforts were made to protect the members, and whether they were sent to hospital or their primary care physician
- Were any non-CAP members involved in the incident
- What safety mechanisms have been engaged to prevent further death or injury (such as activity cancelled, aircraft grounded)
- Has the family or parent been notified
- When the inspector general, region counsel, or national was notified
- The activity where the incident occurred (squadron meeting, encampment, etc.)
- Any information given to the press, including copies of notes or releases.

Talking Points

- o Number of people injured
- What happened to preserve life and mitigate injuries (first aid, canceled further events, etc.)
- o Mission/activity where incident occurred
- o Background information on event and its safety protocols/equipment
- Background information about CAP and its missions
- Safety is a priority for CAP
- More information will be given as it develops
- Personal information withheld for privacy reasons
- Cause under investigation and CAP is cooperating with local authorities

- i. Cadet Protection Policy (CPPT) violations Information to be Collected and Reported
 - What happened?
 - When were local authorities contacted?
 - When was the inspector general, region counsel, or national notified?
 - When were the local authorities notified?
 - When were parents/guardians contacted
 - Any non-CAP members that were involved in the incident
 - Where the incident occurred
 - Activity at which the incident occurred (squadron meeting, encampment, etc.)
 - Any information given to the press, including copies of notes or releases
 - What other response has occurred (restricting a member, cadet requiring medical attention, arrest of a senior member)

Talking Points

- CAP takes protecting our cadets very seriously
- o Background information on the Cadet Protection Policy and its training
- o Information on Required Staff Training, if it applies
- All CAP senior members have a background check through the FBI before being allowed to join
- o Parents notified
- CAP cooperating with local authorities as well as investigating internally through the inspector general
- To protect both the accused and the cadet(s) involved, the member is suspended from activity until the investigation is complete
- o Personal details withheld for privacy reasons and due to the ongoing investigation
- Safety is a priority for CAP
- o Background information about CAP and its missions, particularly the cadet program
- More information will be given as it develops
- j. Abuse/Harassment/Discrimination Information to be Collected and Reported
 - What happened?
 - When were local authorities contacted?
 - When was the inspector general, region counsel, or national notified?
 - When were the local authorities notified?
 - Any non-CAP members that were involved in the incident
 - Where the incident occurred
 - Activity at which the incident occurred (squadron meeting, encampment, etc.)
 - Any information given to the press, including copies of notes or releases
 - What other response has occurred (restricting a member, cadet requiring medical attention, arrest of a senior member)

Talking Points

- CAP has no tolerance of abuse/harassment/discrimination
- o CAP cooperating with local authorities
- CAP also investigating through the inspector general process

Appendix A – Media Release Templates (see p. 9, below) Appendix B – Media Contacts (see p.16, below)

TEXAS WING, CIVIL AIR PATROL CRISIS COMMUNICATIONS PLAN Appendix A – Media Release Templates

April 8, 2015

The following media release templates are provided for quick reference.

The body of the release has a basic outline based on the subject. The PAO needs to replace those passages that are boldfaced with the actual dateline and specific details that are to be released for publication.

In all instances, remove the boilerplate given below, and use that posted on the NHQ/PA page at https://www.gocivilairpatrol.com/static/media/cms/Civil_Air_Patrol_Boilerplate_CE6E1C_4FC9FF143B6AA.pdf

Samples follow below.

Pre-scripted Media Release Template – Loss of Aircraft Incident

Basic CAP Media Release Template with Standard Boilerplate (always get the latest boilerplate version found at

https://www.gocivilairpatrol.com/static/media/cms/Civil_Air_Patrol_Boilerplate_CE6E1C_4FC9FF143B6AA.pdf)

CIVIL AIR PATROL – TEXAS WING FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 1, 2015

Headline

[TEXAS WING HEADQUARTERS, TX.] – On [DATE] a Civil Air Patrol aircraft was involved in an accident while participating in [ACTIVITY/MISSION]. The crew, including [NUMBER OF SENIOR MEMBERS AND CADETS], [WERE NOT INJURED/WERE INJURED AND TREATED/WERE KILLED] in the incident.

The cause of the accident is under investigation and CAP will continue to assist local authorities and the National Transportation Safety Board. [IF INJURED/DECEASED] Information about the members [INJURED AND/OR KILLED] is being withheld [DUE TO PRIVACY CONCERNS AND/OR FAMILY NOTIFICATION]. As safety is the top priority in Civil Air Patrol, [THE DAMAGED AIRCRAFT IS GROUNDED/FLIGHT OPERATIONS HAVE BEEN SUSPENDED/ALL AIRCRAFT ARE BEING INSPECTED]. Further information will be released as soon as it is available.

Civil Air Patrol, the longtime all-volunteer U.S. Air Force auxiliary, is the newest member of the Air Force's Total Force. In this role, CAP operates a fleet of 560 aircraft, performs about 90 percent of continental U.S. inland search and rescue missions as tasked by the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center and is credited by the AFRCC with saving an average of more than 80 lives annually. CAP's 66,000 members also perform homeland security, disaster relief and drug interdiction missions at the request of federal, state and local agencies. In addition, CAP plays a leading role in aerospace/STEM education, and its members serve as mentors to over 28,000 young people participating in CAP's Cadet Programs. Visit www.GoCivilAirPatrol.com or www.CAP.news for more information.

Contact info 1st Lt Roman Vitanza roman.vitanza@txwgcap.org www.cap.news – gocivilairpatrol.com

Pre-scripted Media Release Template – Van/Vehicle Incident

Basic CAP Media Release Template with Standard Boilerplate version found at https://www.gocivilairpatrol.com/static/media/cms/Civil_Air_Patrol_Boilerplate_CE6E1C_4FC9FF143B6AA.pdf.

CIVIL AIR PATROL – TEXAS WING FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 1, 2020

Headline

[TEXAS WING HEADQUARTERS, TX] – On [DATE] a Civil Air Patrol vehicle was involved in an accident while participating in [ACTIVITY/MISSION]. The passengers, including [NUMBER OF SENIOR MEMBERS AND CADETS], [WERE NOT INJURED/WERE INJURED AND TREATED/WERE KILLED] in the

accident. The cause of the accident is under investigation and CAP will continue to assist local authorities. [IF INJURED/DECEASED] Information about the members [INJURED AND/OR KILLED] is being withheld [DUE TO PRIVACY

CONCERNS AND/OR FAMILY NOTIFICATION]. As safety is the top priority in Civil Air Patrol, [VEHICLES TAKEN OUT OF SERVICE/VEHICLES WILL BE INSPECTED/OTHER MITIGATIVE RESPONSE]. Further information will be released as soon as it is available.

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saving an average of more than 80 lives annually. CAP's 66,000 members also perform homeland security, disaster relief and drug interdiction missions at the request of federal, state and local agencies. In addition, CAP plays a leading role in aerospace/STEM education, and its members serve as mentors to over 28,000 young people participating in CAP's Cadet Programs. Visit www.GoCivilAirPatrol.com or www.CAP.news for more information.

Contact info 1st Lt Roman Vitanza roman.vitanza@txwgcap.org www.cap.news – gocivilairpatrol.com

Pre-scripted Media Release Template – Member Injury

Basic CAP Media Release Template with Standard Boilerplate version found at capmembers.com/cap_national_hq/public_affairs/boilerplate.cfm)

CIVIL AIR PATROL – TEXAS WING FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 1, 2020

Headline

[TEXAS WING HEADQUARTERS, TX.] – On [DATE] an accident occurred that caused the injury of [NUMBER OF INJURED] of our [CADET AND/OR SENIOR] members. The incident occurred during [ACTIVITY/MISSION]. The [CADETS AND/OR SENIOR MEMBERS] were [PROVIDED 1st AID AND/OR

SENT TO THE HOSPITAL]. Information on the injured members is being withheld due to privacy concerns. The

cause of the accident is under investigation and Civil Air Patrol's Inspector General Office will continue to assist local authorities. As safety is the number one priority of the Civil Air Patrol,

[ACTIVITY CANCELLED/NEW SAFETY PROCEDURES/OTHER MITIGATIVE ACTIONS]. Further information will come as it is available.

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participating in CAP's Cadet Programs. Visit www.GoCivilAirPatrol.com or www.CAP.news for more information.

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Pre-scripted Media Release Template – CPPT Violation

Basic CAP Media Release Template with Standard Boilerplate version found at capmembers.com/cap_national_hq/public_affairs/boilerplate.

CIVIL AIR PATROL – TEXAS WING

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 1, 2020

Headline

[TEXAS WING HEADQUARTERS, TX.] – A report of abuse against one of our cadets has been made. Civil Air Patrol takes accusations of abuse seriously and we are investigating the matter internally, through our Inspector General, as well as cooperating with local authorities. The [PARENTS/GUARDIANS] of the [CADET/CADETS] have been notified of the accusation. As a matter of policy, the accused member has been suspended from CAP activities pending the results of the investigation. This is to protect both the accused member as well as the cadet membership. [ALSO ADD ANY OTHER MITIGATIVE ACTION (E.G. ACTIVITY CANCELLATION)]

Prior to serving in Civil Air Patrol, each adult member receives a background check through the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Prior to participating in activities, all adult members must complete the Cadet Protection Policy Training which includes an explanation of CAP's zero policy of abuse of any kind, to include verbal, physical, emotional and psychological, as well as hazing. Each adult member is also taught the procedures to follow in the case of an accusation. Before any activity that lasts overnight, a Required Staff Training session, which further discusses abuse and hazing prevention, is required of all senior members and cadet staff.

Due to the sensitive nature of this incident and the ongoing investigation, the personal information of both the accused and the [CADET/CADETS] is being withheld. Further information will come as it is available.

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Pre-scripted Media Release Template – Abuse/Harassment/Discrimination

Basic CAP Media Release Template with Standard Boilerplate (always get the latest boilerplate version found at capmembers.com/cap_national_hq/public_affairs/boilerplate.cfm)

CIVIL AIR PATROL – TEXAS WING FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 1, 2020 Headline

[TEXAS WING HEADQUARTERS, TX] – A report of abuse against one of our senior members has been made. Civil Air Patrol takes accusations of abuse seriously and we are investigating the matter internally, through our Inspector General, as well as cooperating with local authorities. As a matter of policy, the accused member has been suspended from CAP activities pending the results of the investigation. This is to protect both the accused member as well as other members. [ALSO ADD ANY OTHER MITIGATIVE ACTION (E.G. ACTIVITY CANCELLATION)]

Prior to serving in Civil Air Patrol, each adult member receives a background check through the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Prior to participating in activities, all adult members must complete the Cadet Protection Policy Training which includes an explanation of CAP's zero policy of abuse of any kind, to include verbal, physical, emotional and psychological, as well as hazing against any member. Each adult member is also taught the procedures to follow in the case of an accusation. Before any activity that lasts overnight for four nights or more, a Required Staff Training session, which further discusses abuse and hazing prevention, is required of all senior members and cadet staff.

Due to the sensitive nature of this incident and the ongoing investigation, the personal information of both the accused and the [SENIOR MEMBER/MEMBERS] is being withheld. Further information will come as it is available.

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Contact info 1st Lt Roman Vitanza Roman.vitanza@txwgcap.org www.cap.news – gocivilairpatrol.com

Pre-scripted Media Release Template – Natural Disaster

Basic CAP Media Release Template with Standard Boilerplate (always get the latest boilerplate version found at capmembers.com/cap_national_hq/public_affairs/boilerplate.cfm)

CIVIL AIR PATROL TEXAS WING FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 1, 2020

Headline

[TEXAS WING HEADQUARTERS, TX.] – On [DATE] an [TYPE OF NATURAL DISASTER] occurred that caused the [INJURY OR DAMAGE] to [MEMBERS OR PROPERTY]. The [CADETS AND/OR SENIOR MEMBERS]

were [PROVIDED 1st AID AND/OR SENT TO THE HOSPITAL]. Information on the injured members is being withheld due to privacy concerns. The [PROPERTY DAMAGE] has resulted in the [CLOSURE OF FACILITY UNTIL WHAT DATE/INSPECTION]. As safety is the number one priority of the Civil Air Patrol, [ACTIVITY CANCELLED/NEW SAFETY PROCEDURES/OTHER MITIGATIVE ACTIONS].

Further information will come as it is available.

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TEXAS WING, CIVIL AIR PATROL CRISIS COMMUNICATIONS PLAN Appendix B – Media Contacts

January 1st, 2020

Only National and Region-wide contacts are provided.

Texas Wing Official Social Media Platforms

Facebook - https://www.facebook.com/txwgcap

Primary for social media updates, announcements, recruitment, and content.

Instagram - https://www.instagram.com/txwingcap/

Primary for images of events and recruitment.

National Print Media

AP Texas Bureau: aptexas@ap.org -

(Austin) 512.472.4004 (Dallas) 972.991.2100 (Fort Worth) 817.348.0367 (Houston) 281.872.8900

> (Lubbock) 806.765.0394 (San Antonio) 210.222.2713

Television Networks

ABC News: http://www.abcnews.com

CBS News: http://cbsnews.cbs.com/

CNN: feedback@cnn.com;

cnn.onair@cnn.com
crossfire@cnn.com

C-Span: viewer@c-span.org

Fox News: comments@foxnews.com

MSNBC: http://www.nbcnews.com/editors

NBC News: dateline@news.nbc.com

nightly@news.nbc.com todaystories@nbcuni.com

mtp@nbc.com

Radio Contacts

NPR: http://www.npr.org
PBS: http://www.pbs.org

NewsHour with Judy Woodruff: http://www.pbs.org/newshour/